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# Rent bank faces funding gap

HOMELESSNESS

## Loan program hopes to raise $30K, demand keeps growing

Jen St. Denis
Metro | Vancouver

The Vancouver Rent Bank has been operating for five years, providing small loans to people who face eviction, often because of a health or family emergency or an unexpected loss of income.

But the loan program is now facing a $30,000 funding gap, even as demand for its services continues to grow. Rents throughout Metro Vancouver spiked in 2016, while homelessness in the region rose 30 per cent between 2014 and 2017.

"We've been seeing a steady number of loans going out," said Amanda Pollicino, director of community programs at the Network of Inner City Services Society, the non-profit that runs Vancouver's rent bank.

And because funding has not kept up with growing demand, "we've also seen an increasing number of people denied the loan."

During its five years in operation, the rent bank has provided 578 loans.

The City of Vancouver continues to fund the program with $49,000 a year, while the Streettohome Foundation donated the initial $365,000 loan capital.

But a three-year, $30,000 per annum contribution from the Vancouver Foundation has ended, leaving Pollicino and other supporters of the program to embark on the rent bank's first fundraising campaign.

The rent bank hopes to raise $30,000 by the end of June. But ultimately, Pollicino would like to see a region-wide rent bank servicing Metro Vancouver.

JENNIFER GAUTHIER/METRO
HOME STRETCH
NDP Leader John Horgan stops by Metro to talk the campaign, unaffordable housing and the overdose crisis metroNEWS

H-D 100

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**HOMES**

**Horgan talks housing**

High housing prices are a "genie" that can't be put "back in the bottle," John Horgan said during an interview with Metro reporters, emphasizing that a B.C. NDP government would concentrate on dramatically increasing housing supply as a solution to unaffordable housing woes.

"The $600,000 increase in the benchmark price in homes between 2014 and 2016, we're now up here, so how do we give confidence to young voters and young citizens that they're ever going to get into the housing market?"

Horgan said his party's commitment to build 114,000 units of housing over 10 years, including rental, housing co-operatives and non-profit housing, will help stabilize the housing market. He also supports Metro Vancouver's transit expansion plan.

"So people have places to live and then maybe (they can) save up enough money to break into what is going to be an extremely expensive market for a considerable period of time," Horgan said.

This, he said, will also create jobs: "Jobs for construction workers, not building pipelines for bitumen, but building transit and transportation so we can build housing along those corridors to dampen the growth in prices but also provide rental stock." JEN ST. DENIS/METRO

# Horgan: 'No regrets' about NDP campaign

INTERVIEW

## Leader says he's lived up to tough-on-Clark promise

**Matt Kieltyka**
Metro | Vancouver

Win or lose, John Horgan won't spend his post-election days soul searching and wondering what could have been.

That's how his B.C. NDP party spent its time reeling from a disastrous 2013 election that saw it lose with a meek campaign that refused to call out the beleaguered Liberal government of the day.

The self-admitted "passionate" Irishman was brought in as a response to that criticism and — with just a handful of days left before the May 9 vote — says he's delivered on his mandate.

"I made a commitment when I became leader that I was going to hold Christy Clark accountable for her choices and the record that she has to stand for," said Horgan, who has had his character and temperament called into question by rivals during a fierce campaign.

"We didn't do that effectively last time. The response I'm getting back from the doorstep is, 'Go get 'em.' They want a champion, someone who will go in there and play tough for them on the issues that matter to them.

"I've enjoyed every minute of it. I have zero regrets."

As in 2013, the NDP find themselves leading in many public opinion polls (Horgan puts no stock in those, by the way).

The same questions about the 1990s and fiscal responsibility continue to plague them.

This time, at least, Horgan thinks the NDP have punched back.

**NDP Leader John Horgan** says the message he's received on the campaign trail; is that voters want "someone who will go in there and play tough." JENNIFER GAUTHIER/METRO

**MORE ONLINE**
**to see the full interview, visit Metro Vancouver's Facebook page**

Horgan reacts to New York Times report on Advantage B.C., **page 4**

## In his own words

### On the overdose crisis:

"This is a crisis for all British Columbians. What we've committed to in our platform is to create a Minister Responsible for Mental Health and Addictions. I want to have someone I can look to every morning and say, did you make progress yesterday? Are we making lives better today? Do we have in place the treatment beds that we need? Are we looking at alternative therapies? Are we making sure there are appropriate safe injection sites? Do we have first responders with the tools they need to keep people alive?"

### On the economy:

"I see tremendous potential ahead of us on the energy side, in forestry, and in our major urban centres we've got tourism opportunities (and) high-tech opportunities.

"On the resources side, we want to see more economic activity, not less. We have to create opportunities for investment in value-added products. I certainly want to make sure the mining sector continues to prosper."

# British Columbians 'are angry'

TRANSPARENCY

## Provincial NDP reacts to Times article on Advantage B.C.

David P. Ball
Metro | Vancouver

Members of the Advantage B.C. Business Centre appear in a photo during an undated meeting. The organization's CEO, former B.C. finance minister Colin Hansen, sits third-from-left. CONTRIBUTED

For the second time just this year, the New York Times sent shock waves through the province.

In Wednesday's story, "A Province's Tax Breaks Are Shrouded in Secrecy," reporter Dan Levin scrutinized more than $140 million in tax refunds B.C. offered since 2008 to corporations who are members of a decades-old government-created "non-profit," Advantage B.C.

In an interview Thursday, B.C. NDP leader John Horgan called Advantage B.C.'s tax refund program "$100 million wasted that could have gone to other services," and questioned the benefits of the program to ordinary British Columbians.

"They don't want people to know what they're doing, and the Advantage B.C. story is an example of that."

Levin felt compelled to investigate Advantage B.C. because its activities "just seemed to be so mysterious."

"What it's really done is totally unclear," he told Metro. "There's not a lot that's publicly available. It's unclear what the government is even collecting to assess the benefits of this program.

"At the same time, the government has repeatedly expanded this program and expanded its tax incentives to make it more attractive for these companies. Where are the results?"

> **"They don't want people to know what they're doing, and the Advantage B.C. story is an example of that.** John Horgan

One member of Advantage B.C. stood out: PacNet, a payment processing firm the U.S. Treasury Department listed as a "significant transnational criminal organization" on Sept. 22, alleging it "has a lengthy history of money laundering by knowingly processing payments on behalf of a wide range of mail fraud schemes."

Former B.C. finance minister Colin Hansen, who now heads Advantage B.C., confirmed to Metro that PacNet was a member but was removed this year.

"This year they didn't pay, we sent them to the normal contact address we had but we had nothing in return," he said. "And then given the news media information we had, we deemed them to no longer be a member in good standing."

Hansen took issue with the article. While Levin reported that as few as 122 jobs were created in B.C. from the program, Hansen retorted jobs were never the main goal, but attracting businesses.

"To infer that somehow this is money the province is somehow giving up — it's money the province wouldn't ever have received," he added. "I take issue with the whole thing around transparency. If anybody wants to know anything about Advantage B.C., it's all on our website."

The non-profit, he said, is accountable to its business members, whose identities could not be revealed because that is governed by Ministry of Finance privacy protections for taxpayers.

Integrity B.C., however, said it's telling what information isn't available.

"Here you have a secretive organization that doesn't publish its financial records," said Dermod Travis, executive director of the independent watchdog, "and has the gall to say it's responsible to its members, not the taxpayers forking over $140 million since 2008."

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with icons by **Danielle Vallée** from the noun project

# Political beef well done

FOOD NOTES

## New Westminster joint serves up its take on the candidates

**Abby Wiseman**
For Metro

From left: the Christy Clark, John Horgan and Andrew Weaver burgers. ABBY WISEMAN/FOR METRO

I usually like to keep politics and food separate, but sometimes food is political and that is precisely what possessed me to head to New Westminster to sample some very political burgers.

For the past 26 years, Burger Heaven (77-10th St.) has held the "Bun-Official Provincial Election Poll," where the New West institution serves up its take on each political party, expressed in burger toppings.

Chris Geib, the general manager of Burger Heaven, claims that previous Bun-Official results have come close to the real thing. He also stressed that the burger-based poll is for fun — it should not be taken seriously.

This year there are three parties given their own burger representation: the Christy Clark Burger (Liberal), the John Horgan Burger (NDP), and the Andrew Weaver Burger (Green Party). Each candidate's burger is given a clever menu writeup that explains the choice of ingredients.

The first thing I notice is the price discrepancy between the burgers, with the NDP going for $15.12, the Liberal burger going for $13.99 and the Green Party being the cheapest option at $12.84. I'm not sure if this is part of the commentary. If not, it should be.

The Christy Clark Burger is served with a slab of B.C. cheddar cheese and special "CC sauce," topped with "milder O(u)nions." I had it on a white bun with sesame seeds. The burger was just a classic cheeseburger that was good, but not particularly interesting. It is the status quo burger.

Second up was the John Horgan burger and it was spicy. Served with a "Nicely Done Patty" and a slab of B.C. mozzarella, bacon and "h-organ-ic" mango habanero sauce. It was also served with tomato, lettuce and strong "O(u)nions." I tried it on whole wheat.

The mango habanero sauce was ambitious and the spice really woke up my taste buds and got them excited. At the same time the mozzarella and bacon was a little lost in the spice. This is the bolder choice.

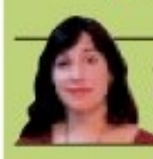
Last up is the Andrew Weaver burger. This little burger was the most bare bones, stripped down burger I've had in some time. I forgot how good a burger with ketchup, lettuce, tomato and onions (not "O(u)nions) can be. This is the basic choice.

Of the three burgers I have to say I kept going back to the Horgan burger, but that says more about my love of spice then my love of politics.

Every day Burger Heaven posts a photo of the poll board on their Facebook page. As of May 2 the burger polls were showing 790 Liberals, 1185 NDP and 836 Green.

# Getting out first-time voters

VANCOUVER TRENDING



**Amy Logan**
For Metro | Vancouver

Encouraging hard-to-reach people to vote requires some finesse.

Vote PopUp, a free downloadable toolkit, aims to demystify the voting process for "first-time or infrequent voters."

It's designed to stimulate interest in the election process by allowing community groups the chance to recreate the voting station, according to the website. Staff from community organizations, civic leaders and volunteers are trained to develop a more voter-centric approach, finding out what matters to often hidden demographics.

John Beebe, manager of outreach, said that one of the goals is getting people to "connect what they care about to the election." Partnering with community-based organizations, Vote PopUp targets harder to reach voters, such as "those who are not in school or are lower income as well as new Canadians," he said, "breaking down barriers to political participation."

Beebe noted that it can be challenging to reach people who are not in school.

"There's a mythology that young people don't vote," but well-educated young people do, he said. It's the ones not in the education system who especially need to be reached. Carefully chosen places, like community centres or neighbourhood houses where people feel comfortable participating make a difference so potential voters don't fall through the cracks.

It's a "very different approach, rooted in the concept of democracy, the idea that people should be setting the agenda. Instead of us telling them to vote, we get them to think about why people should vote," said Beebe.

For the upcoming provincial election, Vote PopUp is partnering with Elections BC. Working with 30 community-based organizations, they have already set up 50 voter pop-ups.

Beebe pointed out that they "never tell people they should vote." Instead they "ask about the issues that matter to them." In the end, "Even the most skeptical people get engaged, " he said.

Among the other initiatives encouraging people to vote: the recent Not-A-Party Election Party, held at the Vancouver Mural Festival HQ, featured music, drinks, and dancing.

On May 8, the Broadway Youth Resource Centre will host Get Out the Vote! A Pre-Election Party for Youth. Get Your Vote On is a group focussed on inspiring 18-34 year olds to participate in elections by educating them about political parties, candidates and issues.

The Alliance of BC Students is spearheading a Count on Our Vote campaign to get students to pledge to vote as well as to simplify the process.

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# Riding fiery flashbacks

FORT MAC: ONE YEAR LATER

## Escape on horseback made national headlines

Darren Krause
Metro | Calgary

When Jada Polem swings into the saddle, she has flashbacks of the Fort McMurray wildfire.

Polem's story of a dramatic, 15 km ride to safety aboard her palomino quarter-horse mare, Mya, told first by Metro, made headlines across Canada as tens of thousands fled the northern Alberta disaster.

"Every time I'm riding any horse, as soon as I put my leg over, you get that quick flashback of going straight, but as soon as you look behind you everything's just up in flames," said Polem.

"It's flashbacks every time you do something that's involved with the fire, whether it was driving out or riding out."

The day before the fire her family moved their three horses from the Clearwater Horse Club to a campground on the north side of Fort McMurray. But the winds shifted, and by Tuesday they had to move the horses again. But with the evacuation underway and fire bearing down, no horse trailers could get through to help. They had a trailer only big enough for two horses, and the only way to get Mya out was to ride.

**Jada Polem and her horse Mya.** CONTRIBUTED

Polem said the horses were anxious and knew tensions were high. When they returned to Fort McMurray after the fire, riding through the fields around home the horses were still unsettled.

"The smell of home is here, but they can still sense that something's happened and things have changed," Polem said.

The 17-year-old soon-to-be high school graduate said having a year to reflect on the fire, her harrowing escape and what lies ahead for the community has given her a new perspective on things.

Prior to the fire starting, Polem said she was making summer plans with family and friends. She recalled the Saturday prior as just another hot, summer day. Within a day, smoke and flames started showing.

"That's when everything changed," she said. "You literally live day by day. This year you almost expect something to happen because you're feeling so prone to something happening."

Polem said every day things are inching back to normal. When Metro spoke with Polem, the day of the one-year anniversary of the fire, she said there was a noticeable tension. People still talk quite frequently of the fire — some more than others — but it's always in the back of people's minds. For her, riding has provided that daily routine that she can count on as the post-fire days pass by.

"Riding horses just makes it more settling. it's an everyday thing and you know that it feels more normal than not having (the horses) around," Polem said.

## DIGEST

OTTAWA

**Parents urge Senate to support bill on gender identity**

Parents of transgender youth urged members of the Senate's legal committee on Thursday to back the Liberal government's gender identity and gender expression bill, suggesting it could be a matter of life and death. Some members of the Senate, including Conservative Sen. Don Plett, have expressed misgivings about the bill, including the notion that the concept of "gender expression" should be protected under human rights laws.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

WASHINGTON, D.C.

**Republicans score a major health care win**

U.S. President Donald Trump is celebrating the passage of the House Republican health care bill, saying he is confident it will get through the Senate.

Flanked by Republican lawmakers in the Rose Garden on Thursday, Trump called former president Barack Obama's health care law a "catastrophe" and called the GOP bill "a great plan."

Trump delayed his first trip home to New York as president to celebrate House passage of legislation undoing much of Obama's health law, a long-sought GOP goal and top Trump campaign promise.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CARACAS

**Venezuelans again take to the streets**

Students held demonstrations across Caracas Thursday as a protest movement that shows no signs of slowing claimed more lives. At the Central University of Venezuela, soldiers bathed hundreds of student protesters in tear gas. Many of the protesters stayed put, and medics in gas masks attended to others with bloodied faces and limbs. Three dozen people have now died in the month of protests.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WISCONSIN

**Storm trooper causes alarm at school**

A student dressed as a storm trooper for Star Wars Day prompted the evacuation of a Wisconsin high school when a frightened parent saw the costumed figure entering the facility and called 911.

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metro SCIENCE
Your essential daily news

The **Amazon rainforest** is so phenomenally diverse because it was covered in a vast ocean 10 M years ago, a new study suggests

# OPENING SOON: JURASSIC PARK?

With new tech such as gene-editing system CRISPR, some scientists are working to resurrect creatures like the woolly mammoth, extinct about 4,000 years. **But should we bring them, or anything, back? Here's a look at the debate:**

## Bring it!

Proponents of "de-extinction" include Harvard biologist **George Church** and **Stewart Brand**, founder of Revive & Restore, a "genetic rescue" foundation.

Scientists at R&R's Woolly Mammoth Revival project are figuring out how to modify Asian elephants to make them more like mammoths, until, after many generations, they essentially are mammoths. (Mammoth DNA is readily available, preserved in permafrost, for reference).

Believers in de-extinction think it could transform ecosystems for the better. Mammoths, the theory goes, could graze in the Arctic. This could help tundra return grasslands and help keep permafrost frozen, absorbing more carbon and mitigating climate change.

Finally, de-extinction, like going to Mars, arguably generates wonder and excitement about science's possibilities.

## Maybe not!

Ecologist **Douglas McCauley** is skeptical. He loves the idea of meeting a mammoth in real life. He's just afraid de-extinction will turn species into curiousities, seen only in "zoo-like" contexts. If the mammoth does return, he said, "I want it doing its ecological thing in nature."

However, the Arctic ecosystems where mammoths roamed have changed over millennia, McCauley said. Mammoths could become "ecological zombies," like an invasive species, depleting resources and disrupting the environment.

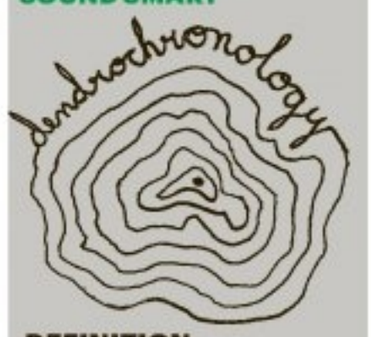
Then there's the cost: not just of bringing species back, but of caring for and managing the populations.

McCauley said it's far more cost-effective to invest in protecting living endangered species, though they're usually nowhere near as charismatic as the mammoth. "I see a lot of value in using the same (de-extinction) technologies to helping species that are almost extinct."

## FINDINGS
### Your week in science

**PALEO BITES**
Until now, it was widely believed that ancient hunter-gatherers bit into their mammoth steaks with ease, never dealing with tooth decay until agriculture brought sugary and starchy foods into their diets. But a new study of modern-day hunter-gatherers has found many of them do have bad teeth despite their "paleo" diet.

## SOUND SMART




**DEFINITION**
**Dendrochronology** is using the tree rings in wood, such as in old buildings, to determine when events happened in the past. It can also be used to study historical climate patterns. (Trees usually get one new ring every year).

**USE IT IN A SENTENCE**
Nobody knows how old Grannie Deb is, but we do have her baby crib. We figured out she is 117 using **dendrochronology**!

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# Quick, give Yondu an Oscar

IN FOCUS

## Our Guardians are back, and yes there is an emotional core

Richard Crouse
For Metro Canada

Michael Rooker (on left), Chris Pratt, Zoe Saldana and Bradley Cooper star in Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2, which is about a group of heroes hired by a race of aliens to protect valuable batteries from an inter-dimensional monster. CONTRIBUTED

Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2 opens with a battle scene that would not be out of place in almost any other superhero movie. The set-up has the Guardians — Peter Quill /Star-Lord (Chris Pratt), Gamora (Zoe Saldana), Drax the Destroyer (Dave Bautista) and Rocket (Bradley Cooper) — working for the Sovereigns, a thin-skinned race of aliens who have hired the heroes to protect valuable batteries from an inter-dimensional monster.

The action is as wild and woolly as we've come to expect from these big CGI extravaganzas, but the thing that sets the scene apart from all other superhero movies is the sheer, unbridled joy brought to the screen by Baby Groot (Vin Diesel), a tree-like being too small to take part in the fight. Instead he blissfully dances throughout to Mr. Blue Sky, the lush, Beatles-esque ELO song that underscores the sequence.

The scene and the movie brim with the missing element of so many other big superhero movies — fun.

"That's what we hoped to do," says star Michael Rooker, "bring back the fun. It was fun as hell doing it."

Rooker reprises his role as blue-skinned, red-finned mercenary Yondu. The former Walking Dead actor — he played Daryl's older brother Merle Dixon — jokes that his normal look, his handsomely craggy face, is actually make-up, and the Blue Man Group style we see in the movie is the face he was born with. "It takes four or five hours to get this on," he says, pulling at his cheek. "The real problem is getting the fin off."

Yondu's weapon of choice is a flying arrow made of special sound-sensitive metal he controls through whistling.

"Dude," he says, "everyone is digging that weapon." It's the character's trademark and Rooker laughs when remembering talking to director James Gunn about the role. "Man, I was glad I was able to whistle."

"The first time I got to whistle I did the melodic whistle... I hypnotized one of the aliens and then I shot out a piercing whistle. Yondu has different whistles."

One wild action sequence with Yondu's deadly arrow and set to '70s pop ditty Come a Little Bit Closer is a show-stopper, an imaginatively staged set piece with a huge body count and just as many laughs.

"That whole sequence is very much like a western gun fight if you think about it," Rooker says. "You go out, and jacket pulled back, methodical, not fast. It is a total tribute."

In the scene he is accompanied by two computer-generated characters, Baby Groot and Rocket, a genetically engineered raccoon-based bounty hunter. Neither actually appeared on set while shooting, but Rooker says they were there in spirit.

"Because these movies use a lot of CGI they require your imagination to be fertile and open and ripe for seeding," he says. "I'm like, 'There is Baby Groot. He's over there and he's sopping wet...What have they done to him?' I talk to them like they were any other two characters."

Yondu may be a vicious, arrow-wielding mercenary but he's also the film's emotional core and James Gunn says people will be "surprised by Michael Rooker's performance. He deserves an Academy Award nomination. No joke."

What does Rooker think? "We'll see about that bro. I'm up for anything."

### MOVIE RATINGS by Richard Crouse

| | |
|---|---|
| Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2 | ★★★★ |
| Jeremiah Tower: The Last Magnificent | ★★★★ |
| First Round Down | ★★★ |
| I, Daniel Blake | ★★★ |

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# A trendsetting Tower of talent: Jeremiah, the first celebrity chef

DOCUMENTARY

## But pioneer now finds the term terribly overcooked

Steve Gow
For Metro Canada

It may not occupy most people's daily thoughts but without one specific person, there'd be no Rachael Ray, Anthony Bourdain or Gordon Ramsay.

In fact, it may be difficult to believe but there was a time before the requisite restaurant role was even given much respect. That is, until the "first celebrity chef" Jeremiah Tower came along.

"In 1972, I couldn't tell my grandmother I was working in a kitchen. She would've disowned me," recently laughed the legendary chef largely responsible for "revolutionizing the way Americans eat and dine" today.

The septuagenarian star of the new documentary Jeremiah Tower: The Last Magnificent may be the so-called "first celebrity chef," but his story is one of humble beginnings. After all, Tower's intent was hardly that of obtaining fame.

"It filled the restaurant and that was the point of it," admitted the one-time aspiring architect who drew celebrity status through his charisma as well as his cuisine. "The best thing was finally a mother could tell her friends that her son is a cook and feel proud instead of saying he's an accountant."

Jeremiah Tower didn't have his sights set on being a cuisine trailblazer when he began working in kitchens in 1972. CONTRIBUTED

Tower's career began in the early '70s when he was casually hired at popular California bistro Chez Panisse, a successful stint that led to Stars, his own esteemed eatery that attracted celebrities, promoted dining as a form of entertainment and launched the concept of the open-kitchen.

"I just wanted to see everything and control everything," explained Tower of the now commonplace design. "It turned out to be this great idea but of course I had no idea at the time."

Tower's modesty may seem self-effacing but it's because cooking, not business, is his primary passion and art. Perhaps that's why the "father of American cuisine" (as Martha Stewart calls him) grew disillusioned and disappeared for 15 years before making a bittersweet rebound at Manhattan's notorious Tavern on the Green.

It's also why Tower gracefully grimaces when credited with creating the concept of "celebrity chefs."

After all, with the food industry now saturated with misguided cuisiniers on television and the Internet, America's preeminent epicurean finds the whole moniker slightly overcooked.

"People showing off (bothers me)," said Tower, who doesn't observe much originality among today's celebrities.

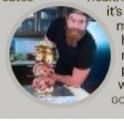
"It's about being a good cook — knowing what makes great ingredients, what to do with them, and how to present them (and) to have the courage to be your own person."

### THE NEW CELEBRITY CHEFS

If Jeremiah Tower insists celebrity chefs "have the courage to be your own person," then there's a bright future for at least these three celebrity food stars from the digital world:

**Hannah Hart:** With her popular My Drunk Kitchen series on YouTube, the California-based comedian/chef has become a sensation by blending laughs and liquor and getting crocked when she's cooking.

**Harley Morenstein:** Canada's contribution to online gastronomy includes the Montreal-based creator behind Epic Meal Time — a popular series that creates high-caloric confections like Cheeseburger Baklava and the All-Meat Lasagna.



**Vani Hari:** She's not a chef per se, but the "food babe" has become equally as famous by using her online status to promote healthy eating. And it's working — Time magazine named her one of the most influential people on the web today. STEVE GOW/METRO

CELEBRITY LUNCH

## Hi, is this sandwich Taken?

Liam Neeson arrives at Big Star. THE CANADIAN PRESS/HO

A sandwich shop in New Westminster, B.C., is proving that even an A-list actor can't resist the lure of free food.

Alex Johrden, spokesman for Big Star Sandwich Co., says staff heard about a movie filming in the area and decided to put a sign outside the restaurant on Tuesday that said "Liam Neeson eats here for free," hoping the action hero would stop by.

Hours later, Neeson walked in. Johrden says the star used the gruff voice he made famous in the Taken movies and said "Where's my sandwich?" He says Neeson posed for photos, but didn't stop to eat.

Neeson is in B.C. filming Hard Powder where he plays an honest snowplow driver whose son is murdered by a local drug kingpin.

The film previously made headlines when Parks Canada denied crews permission to film in Alberta's mountains, saying there were concerns about the plot, which features an indigenous gang leader. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Q&A

## Bill Nye wants his plumber to think critically – is that wrong?

Early in the documentary Bill Nye: Science Guy, which saw its international premiere in Toronto this week at the Hot Docs film festival, Nye laments: "we have this increasing anti-science movement in the United States. It's worse than ever."

The film cuts to now-President Donald Trump calling concern about global warming "ridiculous," then to now-Vice President Mike Pence minimizing evolution as an unproven theory, then to fundamentalist Christian minister Ken Ham teaching an auditorium full of children the basics of young-Earth creationism, which holds that our planet and humans are just a touch over 4,000 years old. "We've got to fight this fight," Nye says. "I've got to fight this fight."

Those who dimly remember Nye from the 1990s when he was the zany, bow-tied host of a kids science television show may be surprised to learn that Nye is back, and that he has taken a turn for the sharply political: his new Netflix series is called Bill Nye Saves the World. Nye has made science literacy his fight, and the documentary tries to uncover his motivations for doing so.

**I struggle all the time with whether simply talking about science increases science literacy.**
It's not enough, but it's required. If we were talking about climate change the way we talk in the U.S. about health care, or the way in Canada you talk about — well, do you talk about the tarsands?

**Yeah, we do.**
If we were talking about the dangers of not getting vaccinated the way we talk about President Trump's latest tweet, we would be getting something done. That's my claim.

**I've seen research that shows that when you argue with people, both sides get more entrenched. Have you actually looked at research on what changes people's minds?**
Here's what I think, based on my experience with what I would call skepticism — which you might also call nowadays critical thinking, or what my dad would have called reasoning. The first time you hear that there's no connection between hospital emergency room visits and the full moon, people who believe that based on anecdotes go, "Yes there is, I heard that!" But it takes about two years. You have to hear it over and over for about two years before you let go of your old world view. But what we want is to get people trained, to have the habit of mind of thinking critically, so it doesn't take two years.

**Is science the only way of teaching people to think critically?**
Philosophy. Science used to be called natural philosophy. Don't make me draw that line.

**I'm a philosophy major who is now a science reporter so…**
There's an example! As a mechanical engineer who had to bust my butt — I took three years of calculus and four years of physics — I thought, philosophy majors, they have it so easy. But I've completely changed my mind about that. I now think philosophy is the key to all happiness. We throw around this term, 'liberal arts education.' That's what we want everyone to have. And it doesn't mean everyone has to go to a four year university, but we want — I want my plumber to be able to think critically, is that so wrong? Whether or not that guy or gal chooses to go to university for four years.

**Do you think talking to adults is as effective as talking to kids?**
No. Talking to adults is not as effective. No. They're cooked. They're not a lost cause, but it's not as effective. No, that's what concerns me so much about that guy in Kentucky — his influence on children.

**I've also met Ken Ham. I went to Kentucky to write about creationism and the Ark Encounter. It was a very disorienting experience for me, as I'm sure it was for you. The documentary features criticism of how you sitting down with Ken Ham** — I blew it! It's all my fault.

**Is there anything about that debate you regret?**
The debate? No. And not even really the Ark Encounter. The reason the Ark got built, I do not think was my fault. I think it was that the governor of Kentucky is a creationist. His tourism cabinet are creationists. I believe, and this is based on what I read, that most people in the U.S. had no idea this guy and his ministry are so out of hand, are so wrong. And the real danger is climate change. He insists to his flock that climate change isn't happening and the Earth is actually cooling again. That is objectively wrong and in my opinion very bad.

**Your show is called Bill Nye Saves the World, so I'm going to ask the million-dollar question.**
Is that U.S. or Canadian?

**U.S., it's worth much more. It seems like creationism and anti-vaxxers and climate denial are all facets of the same problem. How did we get here, and what can the average reader of my newspaper or a watcher of your show do about it?**
As I say, when you're in love you want to tell the world. Read the paper. Watch my show. Read books.

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Because we have this problem doesn't mean we should address it, for crying out loud. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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# Twist of fate ignites unlikely friendship between enemies

INTERVIEW

## New Canadian doc explores battlefield and brotherhood

They fought on opposite sides of the Iran-Iraq War in the 1980s, where one saved the other's life on the battlefield.

Zahed Haftlang and Najah Aboud didn't see each other again for some two decades — until a couple of twists of fate brought them together in Vancouver and ignited a friendship.

Their ongoing journey is the focus of My Enemy, My Brother, which is making its world premiere at Toronto's Hot Docs Canadian International Documentary Festival.

"It's a positive film, particularly in light of the Trump travel ban," says Ann Shin of Toronto, who directed the film. "It's great to have stories like these come to light."

My Enemy, My Brother expands on a short documentary Shin made on the duo with the same title two years ago. It was nominated for an Emmy Award and shortlisted for an Oscar.

As the story goes, Iranian-born Haftlang ran away from home at age 13 to join the army, while Aboud of Iraq was conscripted to fight in the war in his late teens, leaving behind his wife and son.

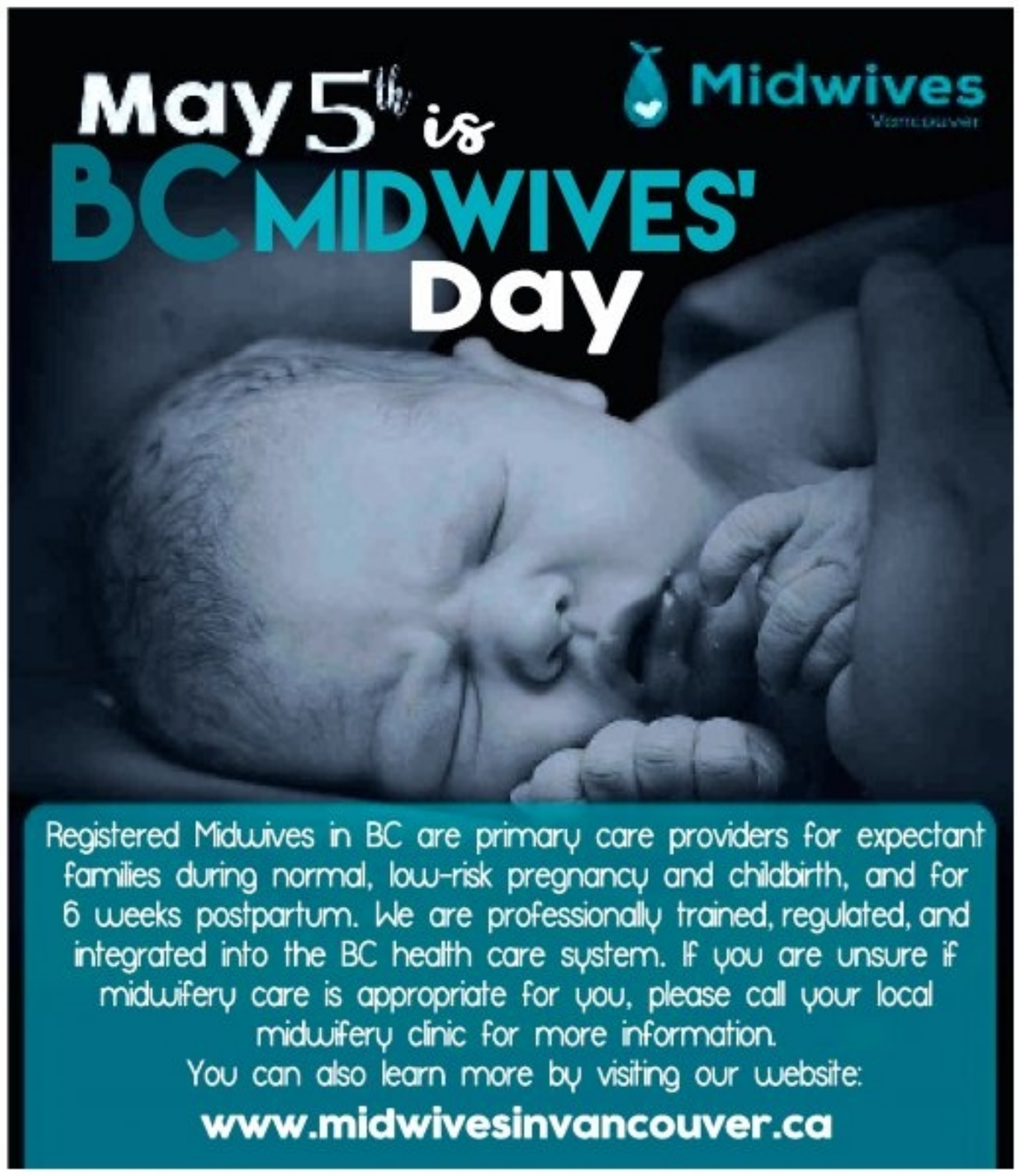
On the battlefield, Haftlang found Aboud critically injured in a bunker and decided to save him and take him to a military hospital. Aboud was taken as a prisoner of war, while Haftlang suffered from deep depression.

Coincidentally, both would end up living in Vancouver, where Haftlang was a mechanic and Aboud ran a moving company.

They didn't realize they were in the same city until they happened to meet each other in a waiting room about a decade ago.

She first came into the project five years ago when she read a newspaper article about Aboud and Haftlang and sought them out in Vancouver, where her parents live.

> **I heard their story. It was crazy. It was 17 years of war and then finding each other miraculously in Canada.**
> Ann Shin, director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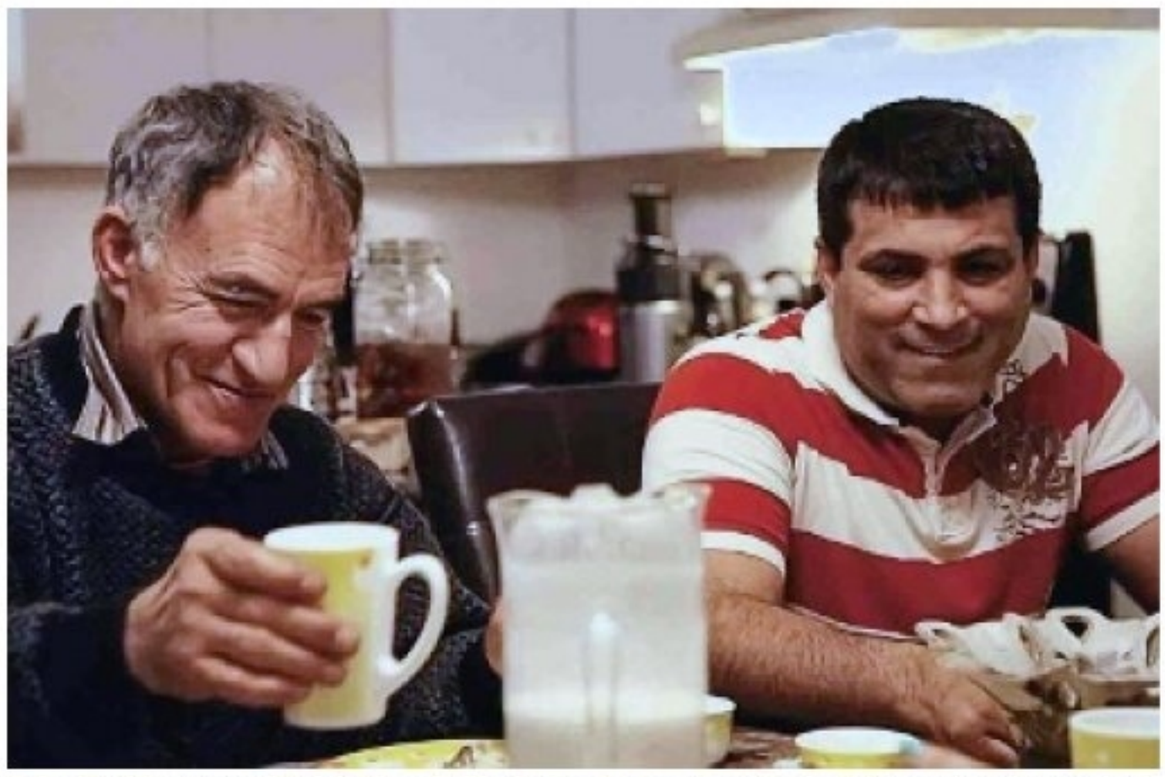

**Zahed Haftlang saved Najah Aboud's life during the Iran-iraq War in 1980s, only to be reunited with him in Vancouver two decades later.** CONTRIBUTED

"I sat down to tea and I heard their story, which was crazy," she recalls. "It was 17 years of war, being a prisoner of war, and then finding each other miraculously in Canada."

This new feature-length version of My Enemy, My Brother expands on the short doc by travelling to the Middle East with the two subjects as they try to reconnect with their loved ones amid present-day conflicts.

"Najah and Zahed's story has inspired me from the start about how you can rise above your own circumstances — how you may be told, you may be trained to see a person as an enemy or as a threat but on the battlefield, these men overcame that and it's always moved me," says Shin.

"Even now the way they are with each other and the way they support one another, it just inspires me to see the best of humanity and the best about our country, Canada, where this can happen, and really shows these two men of Muslim background in a really positive light."

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CATERING

# Weddings hitch up to food truck trend

**Wedding guests order food from Boston-based food truck, Mei Mei.** KATHERINE HARPER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bobby Hughes' family was worried about the food truck. They were used to sit-down wedding dinners with towering cakes. But Hughes and his Colombian bride, Angelica, were opting for a more relaxed approach when they asked the owners of a local food truck to cook up a South American-inspired menu for their Houston wedding.

"My Texas relatives are meat-and-potatoes people," Hughes says. "So there was some concern about the food. I was asked if people should bring their own sandwiches."

No sandwiches required. Hughes says his family and other guests ended up being impressed with the custom menu created by Consumed — a self-billed Mobile Food Dispensary. Normally purveyors of upscale burgers and fries, the owners worked with the couple to offer Argentine empanadas, goat cheese and pesto-slathered sliders, veggie tacos and Arepa, a traditional Columbian flat cornbread topped with pulled chicken and jicama slaw.

Hughes' brother-in-law, Julian Alvarez, had suggested using the food truck after learning that the couple's wedding venue didn't have a kitchen. He offered to pay for the food as a wedding gift. The couple loved the idea, and appreciated not having to agonize over seating arrangements.

Mei Li, owner of a Boston truck called Mei Mei, agrees that trucks add to a casual, fun atmosphere.

"It's fun for guests to walk up and order," she says. "It's a new experience for a lot of people, and adds a level of excitement and options that a traditional caterer can't provide."

Mei Mei, run by three siblings offers a locally-sourced, Chinese-American menu.

Having done many weddings, Li suggests that couples consider the style of their wedding, the number of guests and the limitations of the venue when selecting a truck for their special day.

"Food trucks don't usually offer table linens, waitstaff or cleanup after the meal. You may need to negotiate that or hire an outside vendor for those services," Li says. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Leaving the tails on your shrimp adds style points but also gives your guests something to hold on to.** THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Shake off shellfish slump

RECIPE

## Get going with shrimp in sweet and spicy mix

Finding yourself in a shellfish slump? Problem solved.

The next time you find yourself at the fishmonger, pick up some plump, fresh shrimp and make this tasty recipe. It's just the ticket for a spontaneous supper — try only 17 minutes from skillet to plate.

A magical mix of garlic, honey, crushed red pepper flakes and sesame seeds gives the shrimp awesome texture and flavour, and a squeeze of lime juice livens up the party. (I prefer my shrimp tail-on, both for style points and to give everyone something to hold on to.) Finish with a sprinkle of fresh chives, serve over rice and a winning meal's on the table in a flash.

**Sesame and Honey Shrimp**
Makes 4 servings.

**Ingredients:**
- 1 red onion, finely chopped
- 3 tbsp (40 g) butter
- 1 garlic clove, finely chopped
- 1/4 cup (60 mL) honey
- 1 lime, the juice only
- Red pepper flakes, to taste
- 1-1/2 lb (675 g) peeled shrimp, with or without the tail
- 1 tbsp sesame seeds
- 1 tsp chopped fresh chives

**Directions:**

**1.** In a skillet over medium-high heat, lightly brown the onion in the butter.

**2.** Add the garlic, honey, lime juice and pepper flakes. Reduce until the mixture begins to caramelize.

**3.** Add the shrimp and sesame seeds. Season with salt and pepper.

**4.** Cook for about 3 minutes over high heat. Add the chives. Adjust the seasoning. Serve over rice. RICARDO LARRIVÉE /TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE


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Jerry Seinfeld, Ali Wong, Laverne Cox among performers at Montreal's Just For Laughs festival

# Postcard-perfect beaches a boat ride away

BRAZIL

## Ilha Grande has what Rio's missing: clean, quiet beaches

One of the first things visitors will notice about Ilha Grande, or Big Island, is that there are no vehicles. The local government prohibits private cars, maintaining the laid-back rhythms that islanders say are central to their identity.

Dirt and sand paths that run parallel to the many beaches, however, often do have travellers: scores of crabs scurrying across at a leisurely pace that only picks up if a human approaches.

"Life here is simple," said Rodison Marcos, a 48-year-old boat operator born and raised here. "We don't need a watch, or a tie or cars."

**Lopes Mendes beach, located in Ilha Grande (Angra dos Reis), on a sunny summer day.** ISTOCK

Slowed development means this island can offer something Rio de Janeiro and surrounding areas have not been able to for years: clean beaches. Ultimately it was a search for unsullied ocean that attracted us.

A three-hour trip from Rio, but no highway or bridge connects the island to the mainland. Several boats a day cross a small stretch of sea from three different ports. The relative isolation means cellphone service is spotty and Internet often feels nonexistent. In short, it's a place to disconnect while feeling strong connections because everybody appears to know everybody.

"Oh, you are going to the place of Alex, the French guy," a man told me after we arrived in Abraao and asked directions to Bica Beach. "Let me get you a taxi boat."

The Airbnb bungalow was 10 minutes away by motorboat. We climbed the equivalent of six flights of stairs on a steep path through lush tropical forest. Looking down from our perch, we saw blue ocean waters while monkeys jumped between trees.

The island, about 200 square kilometres, is pristine in large part because of an unusual history going back to the 16th century Portuguese colonization. It has been a pirates' lair, a leper colony and most recently, home to a maximum security penitentiary that housed some of Brazil's most violent criminals, along with political prisoners during part of the 1964-1985 dictatorship. In 1994 the Candido Mendes prison was closed.

Today, there are numerous pousadas, or guest houses, in Vila do Abraao, which has about 3,000 residents. There are also offbeat places to stay, from beachfront villas to isolated jungle dwellings. Companies offer excursions that range from some of Brazil's best snorkeling and scuba-diving to walking tours through rainforests. Then there are the dozens and dozens of beaches that are both beautiful and often empty.

"Look at this water," said Felipe Ricardo Brito, who sells caipirinhas, a mix of the national alcohol cachaca and limes, on Feiticeira Beach. "It's totally clean. There is no sewage. You can breathe pure air."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dam destructive.

Site C Dam

If completed, Site C would **destroy critical farmland, displace families, remove irreplaceable wildlife habitat,** and erase thousands of First Nations cultural sites.

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www.justthedamfacts.ca

Source: Hendriks, R., Raphals, P. and K. Bakker (2017) Reassessing the need for Site C. Program on Water Governance, University of British Columbia: Vancouver.

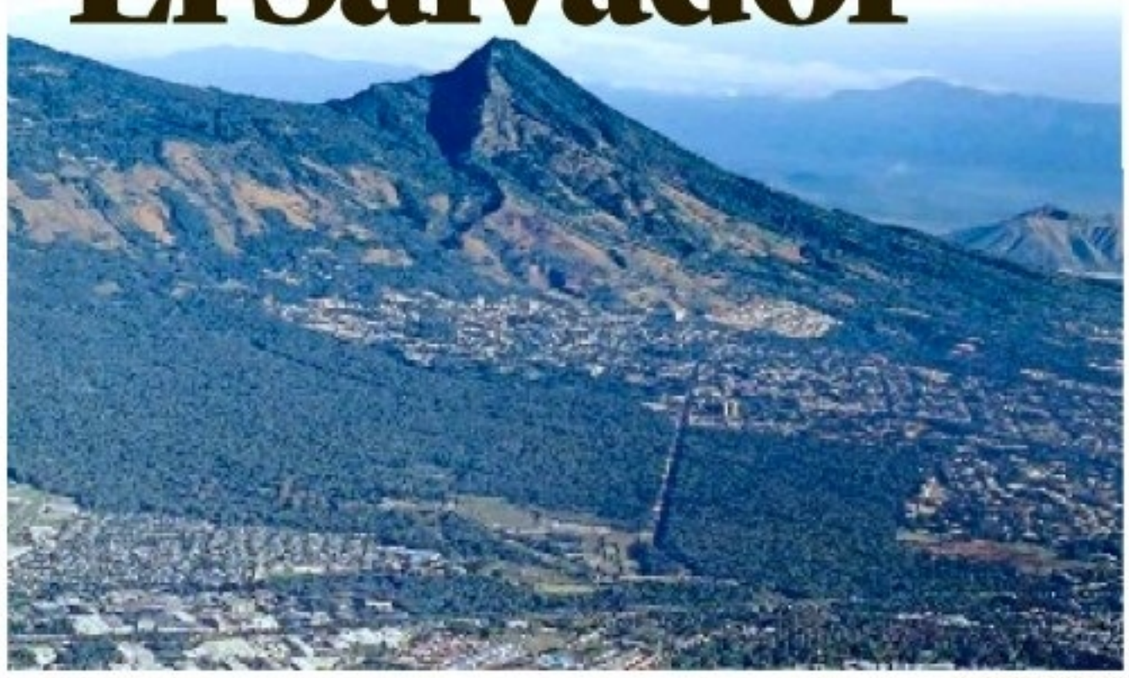
Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative

PYEA

Authorized by the Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative, registered sponsor under the Election Act, 523 Cedar St. Nelson, BC

# 72 hours in El Salvador

El Salvador has always been a traditional stopover en route to Costa Rica, Honduras or Belize. But there's so much more to see outside the capital city of San Salvador. Here's a guide to navigating the country in one, two or three days. **JENNIFER WEATHERHEAD HARRINGTON** FOR METRO



ALL PHOTOS ISTOCK

DAY 1

## Climb a volcano and tour a coffee plantation

You can squeeze a lot one day. Drop your bags at a hotel and head to El Boquerón, the imposing volcano on the city's limits. Hike around the edge of the crater or opt for the shorter route and drive to the top to get panoramic views of San Salvador. In the afternoon, take a short trip to Ataco, where colourful murals are an Instagrammer's dream. It's also home to one of El Salvador's famed exports — coffee. Tour the El Carmen State plantation and see how beans go from plant to cup, and sip on some local brew at Ataco's tiny cafés.

DAY 2

## Visit historic sites

Head to Suchitoto (stay at boutique hotel Los Almendros de San Lorenzo), a picturesque town surrounded by volcanoes, lakes and ancient sites like the indigenous city of Chalchuapa (home to the highest pyramids in the country). Continue your tour through Joya de Ceren, a UNESCO World Heritage Site preserved after being buried under volcanic ash in 660 BC.

DAY 3

## Chase some waves

After a stroll along the cobblestone streets of Suchitoto, grab a pupusa (a Salvadorian dish of meat, cheese and beans in a flat pastry) and visit the man-made lake, Lago Suchitlan. Then get your surf gear on. The swells at the famed volcanic Playa El Tunco are legendary. Bring beach shoes, because the beach is rocky mixed with black sand, and tackle the waves with El Salvador Surf Camps (elsalvadorsurfcamps.com). After, park yourself on the beach or book a massage at the B Boutique Hotel.

Avianca offers direct flights from Toronto to San Salvador. This trip was hosted by the tourism board of El Salvador, which didn't review or approve this story.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# SPORTS

# Jacobson settling in with new-look attack

WHITECAPS

## Midfielder had a hand in both goals in recent win on road

Soft-spoken and usually a man of few words, Andrew Jacobson didn't want to spend a lot of time talking about his stunning goal.

No, he hadn't seen a replay, adding quickly the strike that helped the Vancouver Whitecaps earn their first road points of the season in Saturday's 2-1 win over Montreal would be meaningless if they didn't continue on the same path.

But what the veteran midfielder was happy to discuss was his two-year-old son Henry's reaction to dad's exploits while watching the game on television back in Vancouver.

"He was running around screaming," Jacobson said with a proud chuckle after training this week. "My wife has it on video. It was pretty cute."

With the Whitecaps down 1-0 in Montreal, Jacobson peeled away from a crowd of teammates and opponents as a free kick bent towards the Impact penalty area. A defender headed the ball away from immediate danger in the chaotic goal mouth, but only as far as Jacobson, who snapped a picture-perfect volley into the top corner from 18 yards out.

**Andrew Jacobson of the Whitecaps and the Galaxy's Jermanie Jones vie for the ball on April 1 at BC Place Stadium.** DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

With a number of attacking players out injured — including midfielders Yordy Reyna and Brek Shea — and 16-year-old phenom Alphonso Davies starting to wear down, Whitecaps head coach Carl Robinson also played a hunch three weeks ago.

He switched his preferred 4-2-3-1 formation with two defensive midfielders to a 4-1-4-1 setup that saw both Jacobson and Tony Tchani pushed further up field to support striker Fredy Montero.

The result was Vancouver playing well in a 2-1 road loss to the Portland Timbers on April 22 before the same lineup broke through in Montreal.

"It's about people wanting to get in the box," said Robinson. "I've challenged my players to want to get in the box and want to score goals.

"It's just about continuing to do the right things."

Jacobson, who would cap his day against the Impact by setting up Cristian Techera's second-half winner, said he's enjoyed the more advanced role in a formation that forces the Whitecaps (3-4-1) to attack on the road, where they visit the slumping Colorado Rapids (1-5-1) on Friday.

"It takes a lot of work and it takes everybody moving off the ball," said Jacobson, a 31-year-old from Palo Alto, Calif., acquired from New York City FC in March 2016. "If you start to get complacent you can get burned real quick." THE CANADIAN PRESS

NHL PLAYOFFS

## Rangers pull even in series with Sens

Henrik Lundqvist made 22 saves to lead the New York Rangers to a 4-1 win over the Ottawa Senators on Thursday night in Game 4 of the Eastern Conference semifinal.

The best-of-seven series is tied 2-2. Game 5 is Saturday afternoon at Canadian Tire Centre.

Oscar Lindberg scored twice for the Rangers, and Nick Holden and Chris Kreider each added a goal. New York's bottom six forwards did the heavy lifting offensively, as that group finished with two goals and five assists for seven points in the win. Tanner Glass recorded two assists, and the triumvirate of Kevin Hayes, J.T. Miller and Michael Grabner each had an assist.

GAME 4 In New York

| | |
|---|---|
| 4 | 1 |

Kyle Turris scored the Senators' lone goal as Ottawa dropped its second straight in the series.

Sens captain Erik Karlsson did not play the third period after he fell awkwardly late in the second during a battle for a puck along the boards with Miller. Karlsson finished with a shot in 14:54 of ice time.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## IN BRIEF

**Crosby skates but remains day to day ahead of Game 5**

Pittsburgh captain Sidney Crosby skated at the Penguins practice facility Thursday, two days after the team confirmed he was suffering from another concussion.

Penguins coach Mike Sullivan said Crosby is focused on his rehab and didn't provide an update on the star centre's availability for Game 5 of Pittsburgh's best-of-seven Eastern Conference semifinal with Washington.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

**Wiz rout Celts in testy affair**

John Wall scored 24 points and the Washington Wizards jumped out to a hot start and rode it to a 116-89 victory over the Boston Celtics in a technical foul-filled Game 3 on Thursday night to cut their series deficit to 2-1.

The game was already a blowout in the second when Washington's Kelly Oubre Jr. was ejected for charging and knocking over Kelly Olynyk after the Boston big man was called for an illegal screen.

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MAKE IT TONIGHT

# *Irresistible* Chocolate Peanut Butter Balls

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

**Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh**
For Metro Canada

These impressive homemade sweets are so easy to make. What's not easy? Eating just one at a time...

**Ready In: 1 hour 30 minutes**
**Prep Time: 15 minutes**
**Chill Time: 45 minutes**

**Ingredients**
- 1/2 cup creamy natural peanut butter
- 3 Tbsp butter, softened
- 1 cup confectioner's sugar
- 8 oz chocolate, chopped (or chocolate chips)

**Directions**
**1.** In a bowl, mix peanut butter, sugar and butter together until they form a dough. Shape into a ball, cover with plastic wrap and chill 15 minutes.
**2.** Pinch off a small bits of and roll into 1-inch balls. If too sticky, pop back in fridge for a few minutes.
**3.** Place balls on a parchment lined baking sheet and then in the freezer for half an hour.
**4.** Melt chocolate gently using a double boiler and then pour into a shallow bowl.
**5.** Using a toothpick, pick up each ball, dip it into the chocolate and then let excess drip off. Place each ball onto a clean parchment lined baking sheet. You can leave plain or sprinkle a pinch of sea salt of finely chopped nuts before the chocolate firms up
**6.** Refrigerate until you serve.

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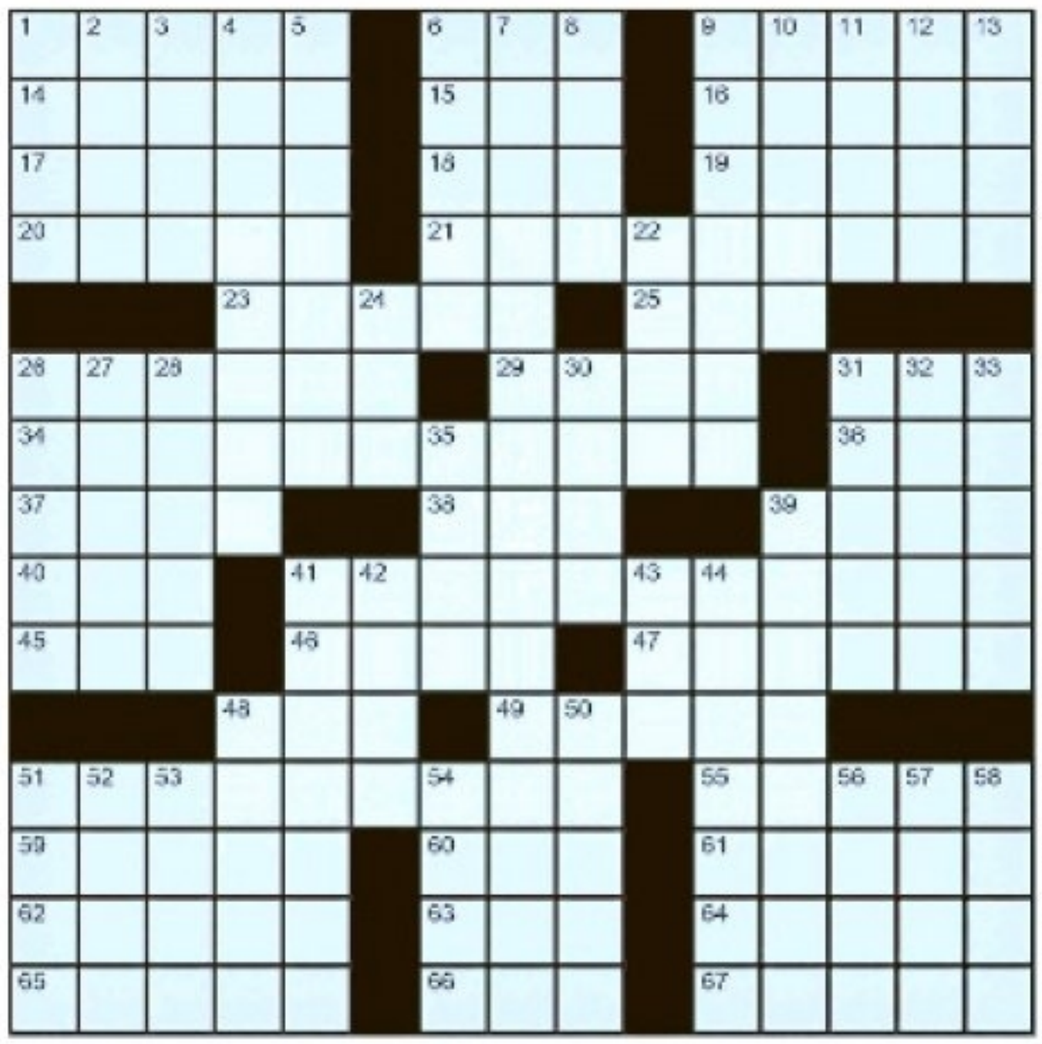
# CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



**ACROSS**
1. Dove and Irish Spring
6. Mil. rank
9. Information session, e.g.: letter + wd. + letter
14. "Doctor Zhivago" (1965) character
15. 'Text' suffix
16. An archangel
17. Feminine name endings
18. Moulder
19. R'egal'-sounding bird
20. Aromatic resin
21. Canadian athletic chain store: 2 wds.
23. Musician Ms. Mann
25. Slangy one-eighty turn
26. Beach Boys' 1988 tropical hit
29. Hamilton expressway, The _
31. Arthurian title, briefly
34. Arctic _ (Baffin is one of its islands)
36. Scandinavian rug
37. Small estuaries
38. Understand
39. Sprays a famous cooking spray, say
40. Sea: French
41. Crosby, Stills & Nash song: 2 wds.
45. Mr. Pacino's
46. "The Brady Bunch" star, _ _ Davis
47. Actress Ms. Danner
48. Rock logo insurance co.
49. Village People gyms
51. Ringo's birthplace
55. Spectacles style, _-nez
59. Budget-saving prefix
60. Flier to Narita Intl. Airport
61. Illegally live in a dwelling
62. "I _ _ backing at all!"
63. 'Hect' add-on
64. Shania Twain's "(If You're Not in It for Love) I'm _ Here!"
65. "Now you _ '_, now..."
66. Mag. edition
67. Twiggy retreats

**DOWN**
1. New Brunswick's motto: _ Reduxit
2. Cheerios characteristic
3. Stars sci.
4. Ancient Egyptian kings
5. Raw fish of Japanese cuisine
6. Hex
7. As an in-motion rowboat: 3 wds.
8. Jared of "Dallas Buyers Club" (2013)
9. Provincial park in northern Ontario bordering Minnesota
10. Had _ _ (Competed on the track)
11. Poetically approaching
12. Proofreader's 'remove'
13. Director Mr. Keshishian
22. Ladder step
24. Floor-cleaning implement
26. John Lennon's "Instant _!"
27. Projecting window
28. Barenaked Ladies' "If I Had $1,000,000" styles of vehicles
30. 'Different' suffix
31. Brightly banded snake
32. Stage in a dragonfly's life cycle
33. Montreal 'mug'
35. "Ghostbusters" (1984) - Dr. _ Spengler
39. Bodybuilder's build
41. Military command/strategy headquarters: 2 wds.
42. "Movin' _ _": "The Jeffersons" theme
43. Jimmy Fallon's station
44. Applies the paint in a way: 2 wds.
48. Short-tubed pasta
50. Titles for French misses [abbr.]
51. Tabletop's propper-uppers
52. Slurpee-like beverage
53. Mark a ballot
54. Bionic Woman's California hometown
56. Pecans
57. Carrie Chapman _ (American suffrage leader)
58. Airport scr. postings

# IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

**Aries** March 21 - April 20
Clever you! You see ways to improve your health today. Likewise, you see ways to improve your job or to introduce reform where you work.

**Taurus** April 21 - May 21
Today you are resourceful when it comes to ideas about how to entertain yourself and others. You also will apply your clever mind to improving sports events or how sports are played.

**Gemini** May 22 - June 21
Look around where you live today to see how to improve bathroom areas, laundry areas and anything to do with plumbing, garbage and recycling. You can do this.

**Cancer** June 22 - July 23
When communicating with others today, you are strong and direct. That's why this is a good day for those in sales, marketing, teaching, acting and writing.

**Leo** July 24 - Aug. 23
Listen to your moneymaking ideas, because you can see a new way to boost your income today. You also might see how to improve something you own.

**Virgo** Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Take a realistic look in the mirror today. How can you improve your appearance? (You never get a second chance to make a first impression.)

**Libra** Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Secrets might come out today. Something you are involved with that is behind the scenes suddenly might reveal a new truth to you. If it's juicy, be discreet.

**Scorpio** Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Your interaction with a female friend today is powerful. In fact, you might attract someone who seems strong to you. Whatever the case, this person might cause you to change your future goals.

**Sagittarius** Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Bosses and parents will be impressed with your suggestions to improve something today. That's why you should just speak up. You're on the ball!

**Capricorn** Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
You have strong thoughts about politics, religion, philosophy and racial issues, which is why you should be careful when talking to others today.

**Aquarius** Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You might see a better way to deal with shared property today. Perhaps you see a better arrangement about sharing something or dividing an inheritance.

**Pisces**
Feb. 20 - March 20
During a discussion with a partner or close friend today, you actually might see how to improve the relationship itself. Oh yes, there's always room for improvement.

**CONCEPTIS SUDOKU** by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

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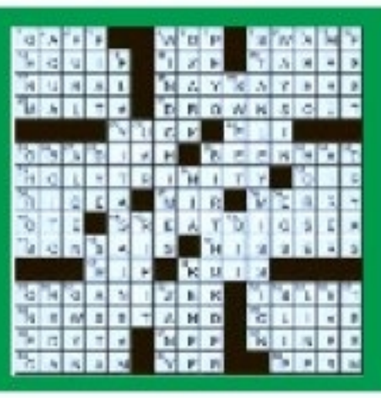

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| 9 | 7 | 4 | 3 | 8 | 5 | 6 | 2 | 1 |
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